

REMARKS

Applicant has cancelled claims 1-5, 7, 11, 12, and 16-22, rendering moot the rejections of those claims, both under § 112, second paragraph, and § 103(a).

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of claim 15.

Applicant has amended claims 6, 8-10, 13 and 14 to be independent claims, including the features of the respective base claims and intervening claims. Applicant also has amended claim 8 to delete the language cited as confusing by the Examiner, thereby obviating the § 112, second paragraph rejection of this claim. These claims are now allowable in view of the Examiner indication of allowable subject matter therein.

Applicant also has further amended claim 8 to delete an unnecessary limitation.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all of the remaining claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests reconsideration thereof.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: October 5, 2004

By: 

James W. Edmondson
Reg. No. 33,871